



REMARKS

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The specification has been amended as set forth herein above. Attached hereto is a photocopy of page 56 of the specification with the changes shown by handwriting thereon.

The amendment to delete application No. H10-158427 is to correct a clerical error.

The other four applications identified at page 56, line 8 of the specification have matured into the publications identified at present amended page 56 (see attached marked-up copy). The title pages of each of the publications, which are submitted herewith, identify the publication as well as the application numbers.

It is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Submitted herewith are copies of the publications identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the publications listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Commercially available English language Abstracts are provided for each of the Japanese documents submitted herewith, except for Japanese 7-31228.

Japanese 2000-310840 is identified at page 14, line 5 and at page 15, line 7 of the present specification, and is discussed on pages 14-16 of the present specification. A commercially available English language Abstract of Japanese 2000-310840 is submitted herewith.

WO 98/19216 is identified at page 14, line 15 and at page 16, line 11 of the present specification, and is discussed on pages 14-16 of the present specification. This document is in the English language.

Japanese publication Nos. H9-204031, H9-258402, H9-274295, H9-121265, H9-146247 and H9-230557 are described at page 55, line 24 through page 56, line 1 of the present specification.

Japanese publication No. H7-31228 is described at page 57, line 2 of the present specification.

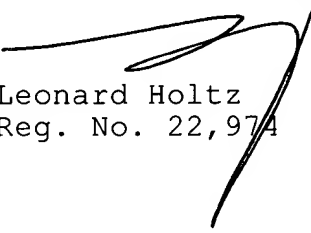
Japanese publication No. H11-352661 is described at page 58, line 16 of the present specification.

Japanese Patent Publication Nos. H11-352564; 2000-162690; 2000-187273; and 2000-292895 are all described at page 56, line 8 of the present specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the discussions in the present specification constitute an explanation of relevance of the documents submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications submitted herewith and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: July 12, 2001

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